The OSCILLATOR

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Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

"MY TWO CENTS"
Pat Roberson

We are getting into the busiest time of year for Amateur Radio operators. There are lots of events coming up including *Sea-Pac* and Field Day.

Reach the Beach was completed last Saturday, May 24th, with over 3000 bikes riding from Beaverton to Pacific City. Jim Schaeffer KB7ADH, headed up the event on the Amateur Radio side using OTVARC's 146.96 MHz Goat Maountain repeater along with the Mt. Hebo repeater on 147.22 MHz. Thanks to Jim and those who participated in the event.

I hope to see many of you at *Sea-Pac* and Field Day.

73,

Pat Roberson, KA7PAT
President,

WATCH
WWW.OTVARC.ORG
FOR
CLUB UPDATES
AND
BREAKING NEWS

STUB STEWART STATE PARK

L.L. "Stub" Stewart State Park is known as 'the playground in your backyard" by Travel Oregon.

"Just 31 miles west of Portland, the park offers camping, picnicking and hiking. If you like trails, this is the park for you. Explore nearly 15 miles of new trails."

"Bring your horse or bicycle and spend hours exploring the far reaches of the park. After a day of play, finding a quiet spot to relax is easy in the 1,650 acres of lush rolling hills, forest and deep canyons."

Or, on June 25 –26 you can find one of the northwest's premier Field Day sites. OTVARC will once again operate from the Day Use Field and Parking Lot to demonstrate ham radio's availability to serve communication needs "when all else fails."

Even if you don't come for the entire weekend, be sure to check out the operation and site. Our Saturday Hamburger Dinner is at 5:30 pm. Bring along folks you'd like to introduce to Amateur Radio.

CLUB MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 16th

Our June Club Meeting will be at Sunset Presbyterian Church. Beginning at 7:00 pm.

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet at the *Community Building, Sunset Presbyterian Church*, 14986 NW Cornell Rd, just off US 26 (Exit 65) in Beaverton. Check out the map at: tinyurl.com/otvarc-site

Our meeting on June 16t will feature a full layout of our Field Day plans for June 25 - 26. Ron O'Connor KD7VIK and the Field Day Team will outline our 4A effort and involve you in it's execution.

Our Field Day location is featured in this issue of The OSCILLATOR in the center column.

Guests are always welcome. An amateur radio license is not required. Invite another ham to come with you.

Club meetings are good places to meet new friends.

Questions? otvarc@gmail.com

OTVARC BOARD AT WORK

The 9-member Board of Directors for OTVARC meets monthly, usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Members who are not on the Board are welcome to attend. Most meetings have members present in addition to the Board.

Your Board has recently discussed the change by the ARRL in insurance brokers. Our policy runs through October and we'll determine our next steps as more information is available. The $2 Application Fee, instituted many years ago to cover club costs of receiving a new member, has been deleted effective June 1, 2011. The Board is working with our SEA-PAC Committee to identify and develop new leadership for the future. Upcoming events, SEA-PAC and Field Day are taking significant leadership time and energy. Arrangements for the August 18th Potluck BBQ and Ice Cream Social and the December 8th Holiday Dinner are being completed.

Club Member Classified Ads

These items from Joe Kelly N7BF, joekelly@earthlink.net or 503-285-1658.

Radio Shack Pro 95 Dual Trunking Scanner w/1000 memories. In original box, with manuals. Good reviews on eHam. List price is $250. Will take $120, OBO or something in trade. Will deliver in the Portland area.

Cushcraft 5-band vertical. Bands are 80,40,20,15,10. The unit is 23 feet tall. I have copies of the instructions. It requires radials. I bought it used for $60 from Ron At HRO. I'm asking $50 (OBO). I'll deliver in the Portland area. Will take a trade. It was my first vertical. I was stumped by a few things and then got involved in end-fed dipoles and lost interest.

Heil iCM microphone. A desk mic with an iC element factory pre-wired for iCOM 8 pin connector. It looks brand new. It works great and is in the original box. I paid $70 for it at Rickreall and used it one day. I'd like $70 or will trade for something I think I need. I decided I like wearing a headset better.

Tornado and Flood Emergencies

Amateur Radio has again played a key role in emergency communications in response to this year's unusually high number of tornadoes. With call outs in North Carolina, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Indiana, Arkansas, and Texas, hams have been busy in sky-watch and as operators at shelters, hospitals, fire stations, and emergency operations centers.

ARES - The Amateur Radio Emergency Services arm of American Radio Relay League is the backbone of ham radio emergency response. However, hams also work with the Red Cross, Salvation Army, various religious organizations, and hospital groups to provide emergency assistance. This traditional role of amateur radio continues to require significant preparation and the "can-do" spirit so much a part of the Amateur Radio Service. One Emergency Coordinator reports that he was delayed in responding the his EOC by storms, only to find his newest team members were already on-site and operational prior to his arrival.

Tornado callouts are not our only involvement in emergency communications. Recent flooding in several states has required amateur radio assistance at shelters, hospitals, and levy sites. As this article is being written, hams are involved in flood assistance in Montana.

FREQUENCY AUCTION

Senators Joe Lieberman and John McCain have introduced S 1040, "The Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011" in the Senate. While it has a similar objective to HR 607 introduced in February by Representative Peter King of New York, the Senate bill, unlike HR 607, does not call for auctioning any portions of Amateur Radio spectrum. Both bills call for the allocation of the so-called "D block" of spectrum, 758-763 and 788-793 MHz, to facilitate the development of a public safety broadband network. The bill is at:

www.arrl.org/attachments/view/News/58554

"Do Something "Different"

Field Day 2011 will be at L.L. "Stub" Stewart State Park in Buxton (Highway 47 North of US 26 about 7 miles). There will be a Saturday night Hamburger Dinner at 5:30 pm.

Setup begins on Friday with operation opening at 11:00 am Saturday morning and running through 1:00 pm on Sunday. Cabins and camp sites are available at the park - go to:
www.oregonstateparks.org/images/pdf/stubstewart_full.pdf

Have a special interest? Haven't been on a Field Day event yet? Talk with Ron KD7VIK or Everett W6ABM and they'll find a niche for you.

We're operating as 4A again in 2011. This means we'll have four stations on the air, plus a VHF-UHF station. We'll be "off the mains" and operate with emergency power (battery and generator).

Field Day is not a contest. However, we enter with the intention of making as many contacts as possible while offering an opportunity for all hams to join in as operators...and to involve non-hams both as observers and operators.

Come for all or part of the fun at Field Day.

LOOKING AHEAD

June 3 - 5	*SEA-PAC* 2011
June 16	Club Meeting
June 25 - 26	Field Day
July 21	Club Meeting
August 18	Club BBQ/Ice Cream Social At Rood Bridge Park
September 15	Club Meeting
October 20	Club Meeting
November 17	Club Meeting
December 8	Holiday Dinner
January 19	Club Meeting
February 16	Club Meeting
March 16	Club Meeting
April 19	Club Meeting

NEW GENERAL EXAM QUESTIONS

The General Class Question Pool for Element 3 exams will be updated July 1, 2011. The Question Pool Committee of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators released the new General class (Element 3) question pool on December 7, 2010. It will remain valid until June 30, 2015. The current General question pool that became effective July 1, 2007 will expire June 30, 2011.

The new General pool contains 457 questions, from which 35 are selected for an Element 3 examination. It may be downloaded for study at: www.arrl.org/question-pools. Practice exams are available online in various places. Many of these are FREE. Start here, aa9pw.com/radio/.

The General Amateur Radio License exam Exam contains 35 questions drawn from the 457 question pool. General Class Privileges include all VHF/UHF Amateur bands and most HF privileges (10 through 160 meters).

The OTVARC General Class Upgrade Team uses the Gordon West Study Guide from W5YI. The new edition is priced at $34.95 and includes a CD with exams and helps. Gordon West organizes your study around similar subjects but includes all questions in the pool.

The 7th Edition of the General Class License Manual published by the ARRL includes practice exam software on CD-ROM. It may be purchased for $29.95. It contains all pool questions in question number order with explanations.

TRAVELERS' JULY OUTING

15 - 17 July 2011
Silverton Oregon

Silver Spur RV Park is located near the Oregon Garden in Silverton, Oregon at 12622 Silverton Rd NE. Silver Falls State Park is a 15 mile scenic drive from the RV Park. The usual Saturday evening Pot Luck is at 5:30 pm.

You'll find more information about the park at:
http://www.silverspurrvpark.com/

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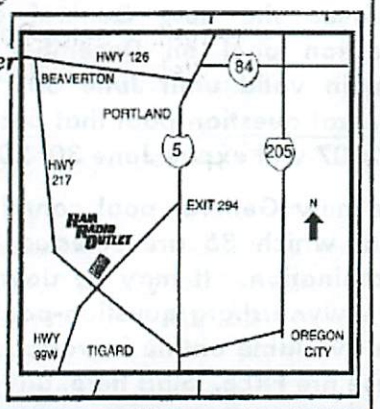

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CubeSat Update

The CubeSat Project was started as a partnership between two California Universities, the California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, and Stanford University in Palo Alto. The partnership was formed to develop a standardized space platform for academic satellite projects. It has grown to become an international partnership of 40 institutes that are developing picosatellites containing scientific payloads. With this many institutes participating in the CubeSat program, the educational benefits are tremendous. Students, through hands on work, develop the necessary skills and experience to succeed in industry after graduation. The CubeSat program benefits private firms and government by providing a low -cost way of flying payloads in space. All while creating important educational opportunities for future leaders of industry.

Twenty-six CubeSats have been launched successfully since the first eight years ago (June 30, 2003). The two oldest CubeSats still operational are Japanese, Oscar 55 and Oscar 57. AMSAT maintains a list of CubeSats ar www.amsat.org/amsat-new/satellites/cubesats.php. AMSAT-UK plans to launch FunCube this year.

A CONNECTOR BY ANY OTHER NAME

I'm very weary of people calling connectors by the wrong names. RJ-45 and DB-9 are the most common mistakes.

A modular plug is not an RJ-45 plug unless you are using it to connect a telco 2w leased circuit, an application which is extremely rare these days.

The modular connector only gains a RJ (Registered Jack) designation when wired in a specific pattern for a specific telephone application. If used for a non-telephone application (radio, Ethernet, etc), it does not have an RJ designation. It's just a modular plug with 4/6/8/10 positions, and 2/4/6/8/10 contacts. Only the 6 and 8 position plugs are specified as Registered Jacks.

The plugs which can be wired in a number of ways, of which only the ones associated with telephone applications have associated RJ designations, which vary depending on the wiring pattern, and intended application.

The plug that is specified for RJ-45 is not the plug that everybody incorrectly refers to as RJ-45. The correct plug has an extra ridge along the side of the plug, and most people have never seen one. The specified wiring pattern for RJ-45 is not compatible with Ethernet or any of the other common misuses of "RJ-45".

The ITT/Canon D series sub miniature connectors are available in 5 different shell sizes. Those sizes are coded A-E, and are designated by the second letter of the model number.

The normal sizes, based on the standard sized contact inserts, are DA-15, DB-25, DC-37, DD-50, and DE-9.

You can also get double density, and specialized inserts, giving you connectors such as the DB-13W3, with 3 coax and 10 pins, which was used for older Sun monitors, etc.

Bob AF6RR
Stanford, California

[From FT-817 Yahoo Group]

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

3 - 5 JUNE 2011
SEA-PAC
NW Division ARRL Convention
Seaside Convention Center
Seaside Oregon
Online Registration Open NOW
www.seapac.org
C. Wayne Schuler AI9Q
16414 NE 21st Street
Vancouver, WA 98684
360-892-5580
ai9q@arrl.net

12 AUGUST 2011
PACIFIC NW DX CONVENTION
Western Washington DX Club
Holiday Inn - Downtown Everett
3105 Pine Street
Everett, WA 98201
wwdxc.org
Denny Bowman W7SNH
6916 160th Street SW Edmonds, WA 98026
425-745-6149
w7snh1@gmail.com

8 OCTOBER 2011
Pacific Northwest VHF Society Conference
The Riverhouse
2850 NW Rippling River Court
Bend, OR 97701
www.pnwvhfs.org
Talk-In: 146.94 (PL 162.2) & 144.24 USB

Your **business advertising** in *THE OSCILLATOR* is seen each month by more than 200 members who read *THE OSCILLATOR*. To include your "Business Card" ad ($48.00 annually) or "Display" - HRO size ad ($60.00 annually), contact **Maureen O'Rourke** at 503.591.9641.

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HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY

1		Alan R. Morse
2	AC7UY	Dennis Newton
3	KF7GLU	Dale Pack
4	KA7IOB	Leonard Thompson
8	K7PSD	Darwin Durr
10	KJ6KCU	Bob Curry
11	KE7BB	Hanford VanNess
13		Joseph Curtin
21	N7CM	Claire Johnson
22	KA7SPS	Dick Millager
23	WF7Q	Bob Orr
30	KA7LAP	Maureen O'Rourke
30	KE7FTE	Thomas Dixon

Did we miss your birthday? Perhaps we don't have it in our list. Drop a note to: otvarc@gmail.com

JUNE LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday June 25 at 5:30 PM

Field Day Site
"Stub" Stewart State Park
30380 NW Hwy 47
Buxton, Oregon
[7 Miles North of US 26]

Talk In: 147.54 MHz Simplex

Questions?
Linda KC7YTD
kc7ytd@gmail.com
503.246.8879

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